1	2	3	4	5	6
20	Rajasthan	34	1606	12	290
21	Sikkim	2	144	1	30
22	Tamil Nadu	60	3038	20	520
23	Tripura	1	50	—	—
24	Uttar Pradesh	23	1513	9	205
25	West Bengal	26	1299	11	256
	TOTAL:	578	36062	196	4071
Union Territories					
1	Andaman & Nicobar	1	36	..	..
2	Chandigarh	4	464	1	30
3	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	..	..	..	..
4	Daman & Diu	..	..	..	..
5	Delhi	14	1593	5	129
6	Lakshadweep	..	..	..	..
7	Pondicherry	2	96	..	..
	TOTAL:	21	2189	6	159
	GRAND TOTAL:	599	38251	203	5215

Amendment of Central Sales Tax Act

1158. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have represented to the Government of India to amend the Central Sales Tax Act so that the loss suffered by the State Government due to the exemption of the first point of sale or purchase does not occur in future;

(b) whether the State Government have requested the Central Government to compensate the loss suffered so far; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Kerala have been informed of the Central Government's view that the principle of compensation is not acceptable. Further, the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 was amended in larger national interest

to encourage and boost exports. Therefore, the question of payment of compensation, or amendment of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 as suggested by the Government of Kerala, does not arise.

Objectives functions of Biotech Consortium India Limited

1159. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the objective and functions, Financial|Promotion Services of Biotech Consortium India Limited jointly promoted by IDBI, IFCI, ICICI and UTI;

(b) what forms of financial assistance are being offered by the organisation particularly to small sector units and the name and addresses of the beneficiaries and the amount sanctioned, project-wise;

(c) what are the norms and terms laid down by the Biotech Consortium for financial assistance for such Venture|Projects in small sector or otherwise; and

(d) what are the names and addresses of the authorised offices of the Company, region-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SNGH): (a) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the objective of the Biotech Consortium India Ltd. (BCIL) is to catalyse the interaction between industry and research development institutes, including the universities, so as to convert such interactions, concepts and ideas in Biotechnology into products and processe and to take such goods and services to the market place through industry.

The major functions of BCIL are to assist in the identification of need-based technologies. the preparation of pre-feasibility reports as also detailed project reports; the development of prototypes and establishment of pilot plants; to facilitate commercialisation of Bioteenology process and products by industry; and to provide information services.

The major financial and promotional services proposed to be offered by BCL would include counselling to individual firms or other agencies; financial and other assistance for innovation, development, commercialisation and marketing of biotechnology in particular; and long term financial assistance to industrial concerns utition is not acceptable. Further, he lising biotechnology for the purpose of industrial development. It would also assist in sale or disposal of the know-how generated.

(b) The Consortium provides long term finance to prospective entrepreneurs in their efforts to commercialise technologies developed in the laboratory|pilot plant scale in universities, R&D institutions and other research bodies. The financial assistance is provided by way of loans for the preparation of pre-feasibility reports (upto Rs. 1 lac) detailed project reports (upto Rs. 3 lac) and for setting up of pilot plants prior to commercialisation (Rs. 20 lacs). Such projects would generally be in the small|medium sector.

The addresses of the beneficiaries and assistance sanctioned are as under:

Beneficiary	Assistance Sanctioned
1. Tamil Nadu G.D. Naidu Agricultural University, Coimbatore & Madurai.	Rs. 10.5 lakhs for each of these locations.
2. Bangalore Genet Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore.	Rs. 90,000/-